

# BUCCANEERS

U.C.D.  
9

SWASHBUCKLING PIRATE YARNS OF ADVENTURE ON THE BOUNDING MAIN!



SEPTEMBER No. 23

10c

CANNONS ROAR AND STEEL  
CLASHES AGAINST STEEL AS  
**CAPTAIN DARING**  
CHALLENGES THE TREASURE-  
HUNGRY PLUNDERERS  
OF THE SEA!





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# Better schools make better communities



NO MATTER WHAT YOUR CHILDREN GROW UP TO BE, YOU NEED A GOOD SCHOOL.



WHEN YOU GROW UP AND VOTE, YOU WILL NEED AN EDUCATION.



JERRY FASANO -



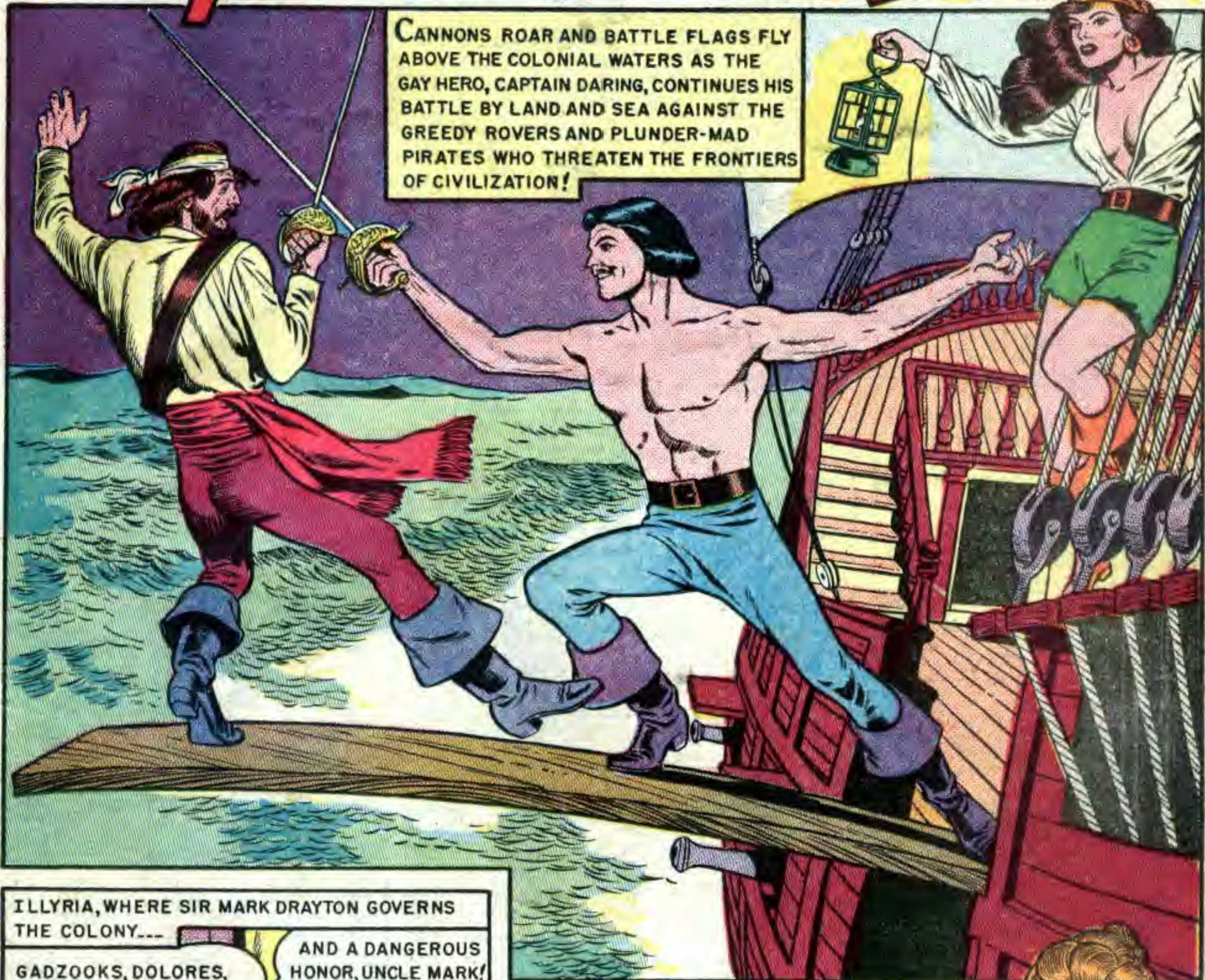
TELL YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER THEY CAN LEARN HOW OTHERS WON BETTER SCHOOLS BY WRITING TO -  
"NATIONAL CITIZENS COMMISSION FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
2 WEST 45TH STREET  
NEW YORK 19 NEW YORK"



BUCCANEERS

# Captain DARING

CANNONS ROAR AND BATTLE FLAGS FLY ABOVE THE COLONIAL WATERS AS THE GAY HERO, CAPTAIN DARING, CONTINUES HIS BATTLE BY LAND AND SEA AGAINST THE GREEDY ROVERS AND PLUNDER-MAD PIRATES WHO THREATEN THE FRONTIERS OF CIVILIZATION!



ILLYRIA, WHERE SIR MARK DRAYTON GOVERNS THE COLONY...

GADZOOKS, DOLORES, YOU SHOULD BE PROUD AND HAPPY! YOUR CAPTAIN DARING WAS CHOSEN TO RID THE SEAS OF THIS STRANGE NEW PIRATE CALLED TEZCA... A MIGHTY HONOR!

AND A DANGEROUS HONOR, UNCLE MARK! CAPTAIN DARING MAY COME TO DISASTER!

NONSENSE, LASS! CAPTAIN DARING'S LUCK HAS NEVER DESERTED HIM!

GOOD LUCK MAY BECOME BAD LUCK! A SPIRIT SEEMS TO WHISPER TO ME THAT HE IS EVEN NOW IN PERIL OF HIS LIFE!





# BUCCANEERS

AT THAT SAME MOMENT, CAPTAIN DARING'S FIGHTING CRAFT, THE *REVENGE* COMES TO GRIPS WITH A PIRATE RAIDER!



HUZZA, LADS! THAT SHOT MOWED DOWN THEIR RASCALLY BLACK FLAG!

LOAD EVERY GUN ANEW! HIT THEM BETWEEN WIND AND WATER!



SLAP YOUR NEXT SHOT INTO HER HULL, PATCH!

AHOY, CAP'N DARING! LOOK YONDER --- AROUND THAT POINT OF ROCK!



ANOTHER PIRATE SHIP... BIGGER THAN THE FIRST! SHE'S COMING TO HELP HER MATE!



SHE'S OPENING FIRE ON US WITH HER BOW GUNS!

STAND BY TO COME ABOUT! WE'LL PULL OFF A LITTLE DISTANCE AND SEE HOW TO FACE THEM BOTH!



THE FIRST SHOT FROM THE NEW ENEMY STRIKES THE RAILING...

I'M LIKELY TO HAVE A SUDDEN BATH!



AND ANOTHER SHOT FINDS ITS MARK!

WE'RE HIT! WE'D BEST RETREAT TO PORT FOR REPAIRS!

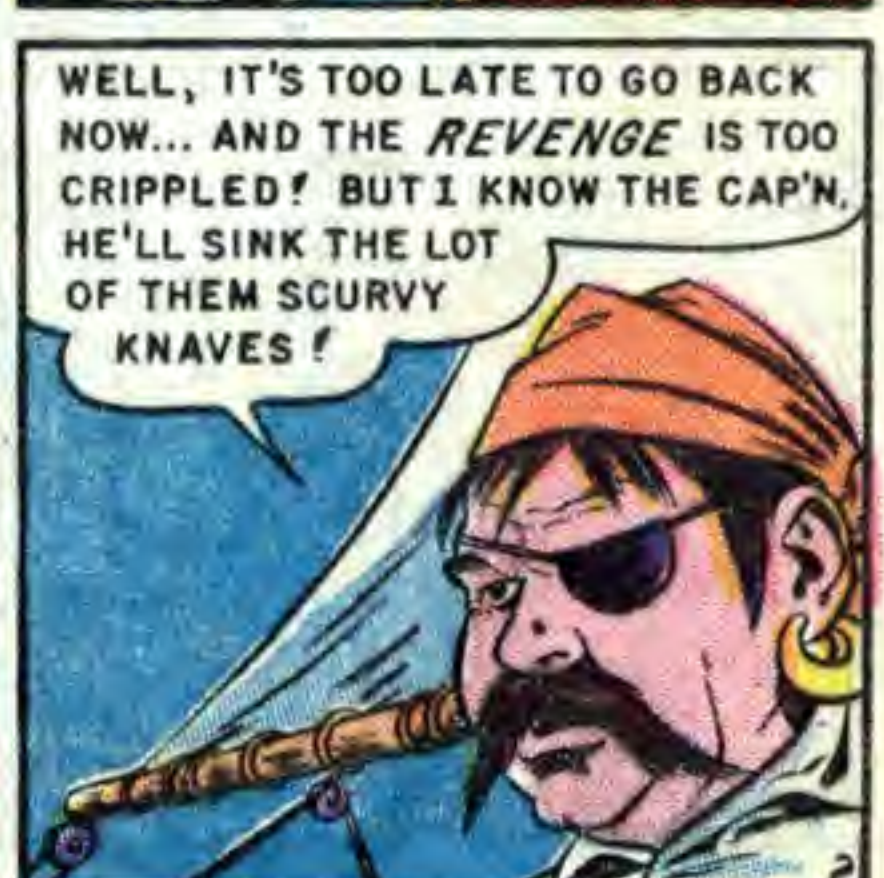
RIGHT YOU ARE! FULL SPEED AHEAD TO ILLYRIA WHILE I LEARN CAP'N DARING'S ORDERS!



MANY KNOTS LATER...

HAVE YOU SEEN CAPTAIN DARING? I'VE SEARCHED FROM STEM TO STERN AND...

BESHREW ME! THAT BROKEN RAILING... THE CAPTAIN MUST HAVE GONE OVERBOARD DURING THE BATTLE FOR HE STOOD RIGHT THERE WHEN I SAW HIM LAST!



WELL, IT'S TOO LATE TO GO BACK NOW... AND THE *REVENGE* IS TOO CRIPPLED! BUT I KNOW THE CAP'N, HE'LL SINK THE LOT OF THEM SCURVY KNAVES!



# BUCCANEERS

MEANWHILE AS THE NEAREST PIRATE CRAFT MOVES FORWARD TO FOLLOW THE RETREATING SHIP...



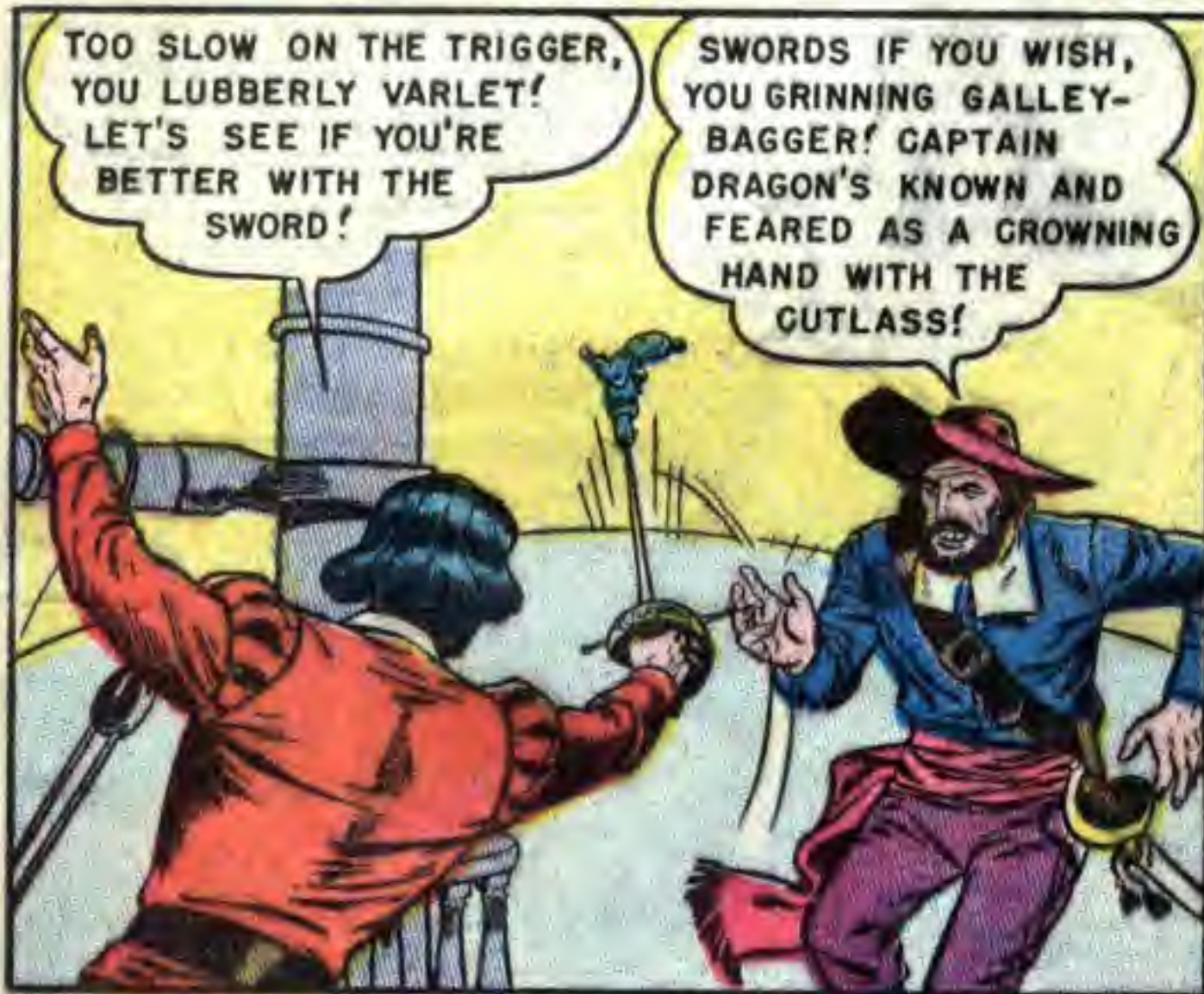
CAPTAIN DRAGON!  
WE'RE BEING  
BOARDED!

'TIS THAT FIGHTING DEVIL,  
CAPTAIN DARING! CEASE  
CHASING HIS SHIP...  
WE HAVE THE PRIZE  
RIGHT HERE!



TOO SLOW ON THE TRIGGER,  
YOU LUBBERLY VARLET!  
LET'S SEE IF YOU'RE  
BETTER WITH THE  
SWORD!

SWORDS IF YOU WISH,  
YOU GRINNING GALLEY-  
BAGGER! CAPTAIN  
DRAGON'S KNOWN AND  
FEARED AS A CROWNING  
HAND WITH THE  
CUTLASS!



IS THIS YOUR SKILL? YOU'RE  
MORE OF A TADPOLE THAN  
A DRAGON!

HELP,  
MESSMATES!



YOU WERE TOO EASY A  
FOE! I SEEK ANOTHER  
AND MORE DREADED  
PIRATE LEADER...  
THIS TEZCA OF  
WHOM I HAVE  
HEARD RUMORS!



HE'S STUNNED!  
ANOTHER BUFFET  
WILL FINISH  
HIM!

NO, HOLD YOUR  
HAND! HE WANTED  
TO SEE TEZCA!  
WELL, TEZCA  
SHALL BE THE  
FIRST FACE HE  
SEES WHEN HE  
WAKENS!





AS THE LARGER PIRATE CRAFT APPROACHES...

WHEN CAPTAIN DARING RECOVERS HIS SENSES...



AHOY, MATES! TELL TEZCA I'M LOWERING A BOAT WITH A PRISONER WE'VE JUST TAKEN-- A PRISONER WORTH LOOKING AT AND TREATING WITH SPECIAL CARE!

AYE, AYE, CAPTAIN DRAGON!



A FOUL BLOW FROM BEHIND! WHERE AM I?

WHERE YOU SAID YOU WISHED TO BE, CAPTAIN DARING! FACE TO FACE WITH TEZCA!



TEZCA? WHERE?

I AM TEZCA!



YOU ARE SURPRISED, CAPTAIN DARING, TO FIND THAT THE NEW CHIEFTAIN OF FREEBOOTERS IS A WOMAN!

AYE, AND PASSING FAIR WITHAL! SINK ME, YOU'D BE BETTER SUITED TO A ROYAL BALL THAN TO THE DECK OF A RASCALLY PIRATE TUB!



I WAS THE DAUGHTER OF A PIRATE CAPTAIN! HE TAUGHT ME THE BUSINESS! I HAD TO COMMAND, OR NO TELLING HOW I MIGHT HAVE FARED!

TRUE! BUT NOW THAT YOU HOLD ME CAPTIVE, WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH ME?



IF YOU'VE NOT HEARD OF ME, I'VE HEARD OF YOU! CAPTAIN DARING, YOU'RE A FREE-BOOTER AND ROVER YOURSELF! WHY NOT JOIN OUR COMPANY?

ALAS, TEZCA, I AM ALREADY SWORN TO THE SIDE OF LAW AND HONESTY!



YOU'D WIN YOUR FORTUNE, AND MAYHAP SOMETHING...OR *SOME-ONE* ELSE!

YOUR SUGGESTION FLATTERS ME, BUT MY HEART LIES ELSE-WHERE!









UP I FLOAT! AND ABOVE ME I SEE THE BOTTOM OF TEZCA'S SHIP!



THIS TIME I WON'T CLIMB ABOARD UNTIL DARKNESS SHIELDS ME! WHAT DOES TEZCA THINK OF ME NOW, I WONDER?



CAP'N DRAGON'S COMPLIMENTS, AND HE'S COMING ABOARD TO CONFER!

AYE, LET HIM COME! BUT I WOULD I COULD REMAIN ALONE!



CONGRATULATIONS, TEZCA! YOU SENT THAT SEA-WORM, CAPTAIN DARING, TO THE BOTTOM OF THE DRINK!

SO I DID, DRAGON! AND A SAD WASTE OF A HANDSOME, BRAVE AND MADDENING MAN! WHY WOULDN'T HE JOIN US?



HE WOULDN'T, SO HE'S GONE! FORGET HIM! EVERY PIRATE ON THE SEAS WILL DRINK YOUR HEALTH FOR DESTROYING HIM!

PLEASE, DRAGON, LEAVE ME ALONE! I AM GOING TO MY CABIN!



DARING... CAPTAIN DARING! I LOVED HIM! AND IT WAS MY OWN COMMAND THAT SENT HIM TO HIS DOOM!



THE SUN GOES DOWN... LIKEWISE TEZCA'S STOCK!

I SWEAR, CAP'N DRAGON, I NEVER THOUGHT TEZCA WOULD WEAKEN SO! SHE'S LIKE ANY OTHER SILLY WOMAN, AFTER ALL!

PERHAPS SHE NEEDS A STRONG MAN TO COMFORT HER!



# BUCCANEERS

AND AS NIGHT DESCENDS...

NOW TO REACH THE DECK... WAIT! SOME-ONE'S TALKING UP THERE!

THE HANDS AGREE WITH YOU, CAP'N DRAGON! IF TEZCA'S TO TURN SOFT OVER A DEAD ENEMY, THEY'D RATHER SERVE WITH A BULLY BOY LIKE YOU!

I'LL GO TALK TO TEZCA! PERHAPS I'LL COME OUT OF THAT CABIN AS CAPTAIN OF BOTH SHIPS!

I'LL PASS THE WORD TO THE LADS NOT TO LISTEN IF THERE'S NOISE HEREABOUTS!

DRAGON! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

WHAT I'VE LONG WANTED, PRETTY ONE... BUT NEVER THOUGHT UNTIL NOW I MIGHT HAVE!

YOU'VE PLAYED THE HEARTLESS CHIEFTAINNESS TOO LONG TO FOOL ME... OR YOURSELF! TEZCA, LET ME DO THE COMMANDING AND WORRYING! JUST OCCUPY YOURSELF IN BEING SWEET TO ME!

I HAVE NO SWEETNESS IN MY HEART! ONLY SAD-NESS!

I'LL KISS THE SADNESS AWAY, FAIR LASS! WE'LL MAKE A NOTABLE PAIR!

HANDS OFF, YOU SCUM, OR I'LL CARVE YOU!

AHOY, MEN! COME AND DRAG THIS LOUT AWAY!

NOBODY WILL COME TO YOUR CALL! AND YOU'LL BE ALL THE SWEETER CONQUEST FOR THIS FIERY LITTLE REBELLION!

THE LADY SAID TO LEAVE HER ALONE, DRAGON!

SHIVER MY TOPGALLANTS... IT'S A PHANTOM!









I'LL BRING THE LAMP!  
IT'S NOT MUCH LIGHT,  
BUT ALL I HAVE!

LIGHT ENOUGH TO  
SHOW THIS ROGUE  
HIS DEATH!



I BARELY  
STAVED THAT  
ONE OFF!

YOUR LUCK MAY NOT  
HOLD NEXT TIME,  
DRAGON!



IT SEEMS THAT CAPTAIN  
DRAGON CHOOSES THE  
DEEP SEA!

BECAUSE HE DARES NOT  
FACE THE DEVIL WHICH  
IS CAPTAIN DARING!



AND NOW WE ARE  
ALONE ABOARD, BRAVE  
RESCUER!

SO WE ARE! AND  
I MUST KEEP THE  
WHEEL UNTIL  
DAWN!



THROUGH THE DARK HOURS UNTIL  
MORNING...

LOOK YONDER! IT  
IS CAPTAIN DRAGON'S  
SHIP!

NO, 'TIS  
MINE OWN, THE  
*REVENGE!* THEY  
SIGNAL US TO LAY TO!



I SEE CAP'N DARING AT THE  
WHEEL! HE'S TAKEN THAT  
ROGUE SHIP SINGLE-  
HANDED!

WHO IS IT BESIDE  
HIM, PATCH? I'M SO GLAD YOU  
BROUGHT ME WITH YOU FROM  
ILLYRIA TO HELP RESCUE  
HIM!



AHOY, CAPTAIN DARING!  
THANK HEAVEN YOU  
ARE SAFE!

'TIS SWEET TO  
HEAR YOUR VOICE,  
MY LADY DOLORES!



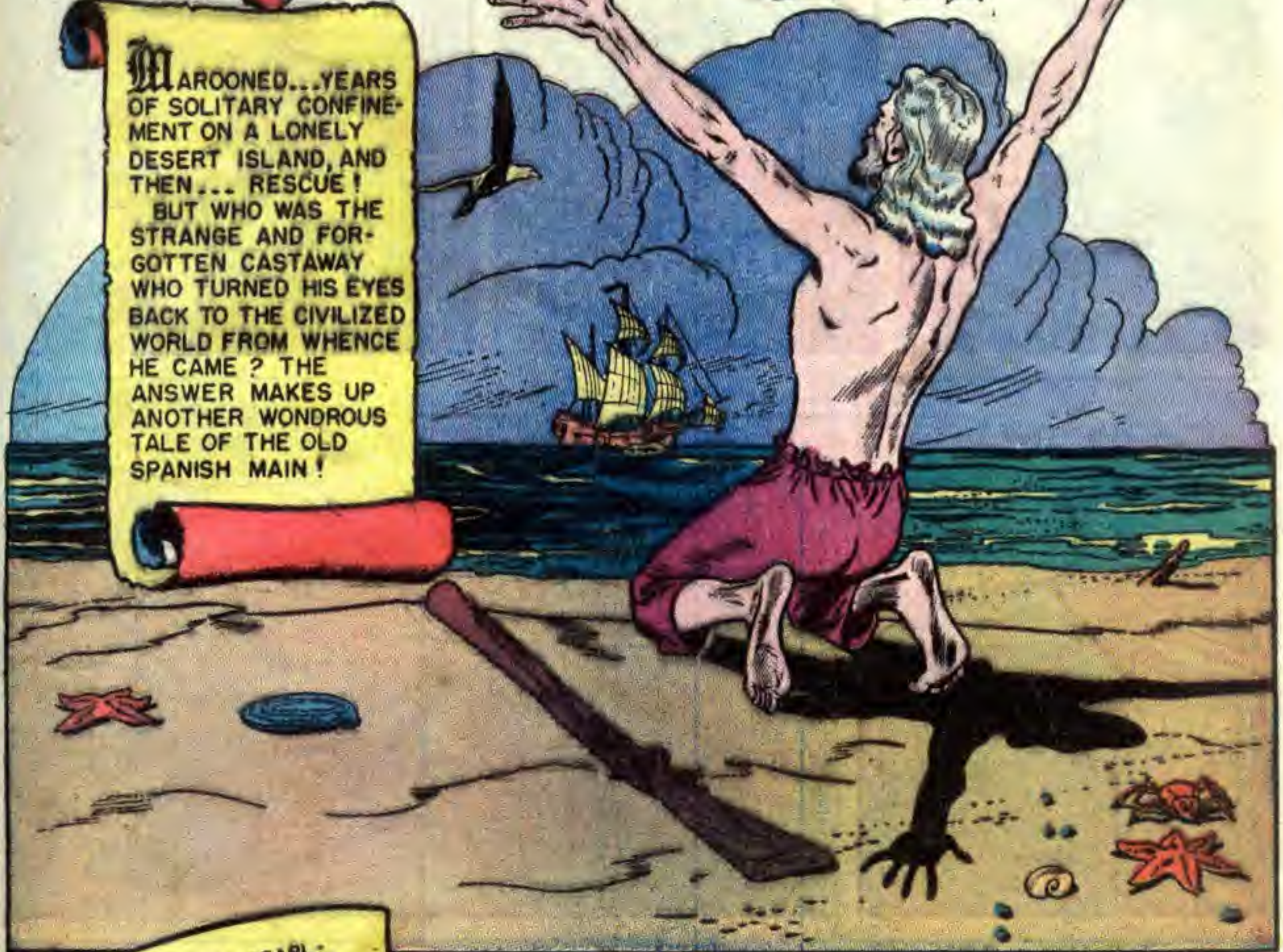




# The Spanish Main

**M**AROONED...YEARS OF SOLITARY CONFINEMENT ON A LONELY DESERT ISLAND, AND THEN... RESCUE!

BUT WHO WAS THE STRANGE AND FORGOTTEN CASTAWAY WHO TURNED HIS EYES BACK TO THE CIVILIZED WORLD FROM WHENCE HE CAME? THE ANSWER MAKES UP ANOTHER WONDROUS TALE OF THE OLD SPANISH MAIN!



CAPTAIN LOTWICK'S PEARL-TRADING CRAFT HAPPENS TO WANDER INTO ALMOST UNKNOWN WATERS...

YES, MR. MATE! I SEE A MAN SIGNALLING FROM YONDER SHORE! BUT WHY SHOULD WE WASTE TIME TAKING HIM ABOARD?

WE'RE SHORT-HANDED SINCE THOSE MEN DESERTED AT PORTO BELLO, SKIPPER! I'D BETTER ORDER A BOAT TO BRING IN THE FELLOW! HE MAY BE USEFUL!



AT LAST, AT LAST! TWENTY YEARS I'VE PRAYED TO BE RESCUED FROM THIS ISLAND OF LONELINESS!

I CAN GUESS YOUR FEELINGS, MATEY! COME ABOARD AND IT'S AWAY FOR HOME PORT!



MY THANKS TO YOU, SIR! I'LL GLADLY WORK MY PASSAGE AWAY FROM LOST ISLAND!

LOST ISLAND, D'YE CALL IT? HA, I REMEMBER THE NAME FROM YEARS BACK! A CERTAIN PIRATE SHIP WAS CAUGHT AND SUNK HERE-ABOUTS!





# BUCCANEERS



'TWAS THE SHIP OF THE FAMOUS BUCCANEER BLUEBEARD! SOME OF HIS CREW SURRENDERED, BUT FOLKS SAY THAT BLUE-BEARD ESCAPED--- SWAM TO SOME ISLAND, BELIKE!

IT MAY HAVE BEEN, CAPTAIN LOTWICK!



YOUR OWN BEARD'S WHITE, BUT MIGHT IT HAVE BEEN BLUE ONCE? WHAT'S YOUR NAME, FELLOW?

BECAUSE I WAS MAROONED SO LONG, CALL ME MAROON! NOW, WHAT WORK HAVE YOU FOR ME?



THAT MAN MAROON'S A GOOD SAILOR, SKIPPER! SMART, WILLING AND SOBER!

AYE, I'VE HEARD THAT BLUEBEARD WAS A PRINCE OF SEAMEN! WOULD I COULD LEARN MAROON'S WHOLE STORY--- IT MIGHT PROFIT US!



BUT EVEN IF MAROON WAS OLD BLUEBEARD, HE'S PENNILESS AND POWERLESS... OLD AND READY FOR THE GRAVE!

YET I'VE HEARD THAT BLUEBEARD LEFT A SMALL SON IN PORT BEHIND HIM! HOW IF THAT SMALL SON WAS GROWN NOW... AND A WORTHY PREY?



WHEN THE PEARL TRADER DROPS ANCHOR...

FOLLOW HIM WITHOUT BEING SEEN, MATE... AND REPORT BACK LATER!



YOUR PARDON, MY LADY, BUT CAN YOU TELL ME IF A GOOD WOMAN NAMED MRS. ROWTON LIVES IN THIS TOWN?

ALAS, GOOD MAN, POOR MRS. ROWTON DIED FIFTEEN YEARS AGO!



BUT HER LITTLE SON... LITTLE CRISPIN! IS... IS HE...

LA, SIR LITTLE CRISPIN IS BIG CRISPIN NOW, AND A POWER IN THE COLONY!





PARSON WILLIS RAISED CRISPIN AS HIS OWN SON! NOW CRISPIN IS CAPTAIN OF THE HARBOR GUARD!

EGAD, MISTRESS BETTY, I HEAR MY NAME SPOKEN! I'M FLATTERED THAT YOU SPEAK WELL OF ME!



THIS WORTHY SAILORMAN INQUIRED ABOUT YOU!

AYE, CAPTAIN CRISPIN! YOU SEE, MANY YEARS AGO...ER...I HAD A SHIPMATE WHO KNEW YOUR FATHER!



YOUR SHIPMATE KNEW MY FATHER? TELL ME, FRIEND, WHO WAS MY FATHER?

CRISPIN, PERHAPS YOU WILL SOLVE THE MYSTERY AT LAST!



WHY, IT'S BEEN LONG YEARS BACK, YOUNG SIR! I... I'LL HAVE TO JOGGLE MY WITS TO REMEMBER CLEARLY!

THEN COME AND BE GUEST AT MY QUARTERS! BETTY, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I LEARN TOMORROW!



LOTWICK HEARS THE REPORT...

OLD MAROON MUMBLED SOMETHING ABOUT KNOWING CRISPIN ROWTON'S LOST FATHER!

CRISPIN NEVER KNEW HIS FATHER, BUT I DID! SIT DOWN AND HEARKEN!



IT'S TIME, MR. MATE, THAT YOU KNEW I WAS ONCE A CABIN-BOY ON BLUEBEARD'S PIRATE SHIP! AND BLUEBEARD HAD A WIFE AND SON... THEY LIVED IN THIS VERY PORT, UNDER ANOTHER NAME!

I SEE WHAT YOU GUESS! BUT HOW CAN CRISPIN ROWTON PROFIT US? HE HAS ONLY HIS GUARDSMAN'S PAY!



TRUE, BUT IT IS HIS DUTY TO EXAMINE ALL CARGOES COMING INTO PORT! HIS FRIENDSHIP COULD MAKE US A FORTUNE AS SMUGGLERS!

HA, I SMELL THE PLAN! WE'LL TELL HIM WE KNOW HIS SECRET, AND HE'LL LET US SHIP SMUGGLED GOODS WITHOUT DUTY!



EXACTLY! WE'LL CALL ON HIM WHEN HE'S ALONE!

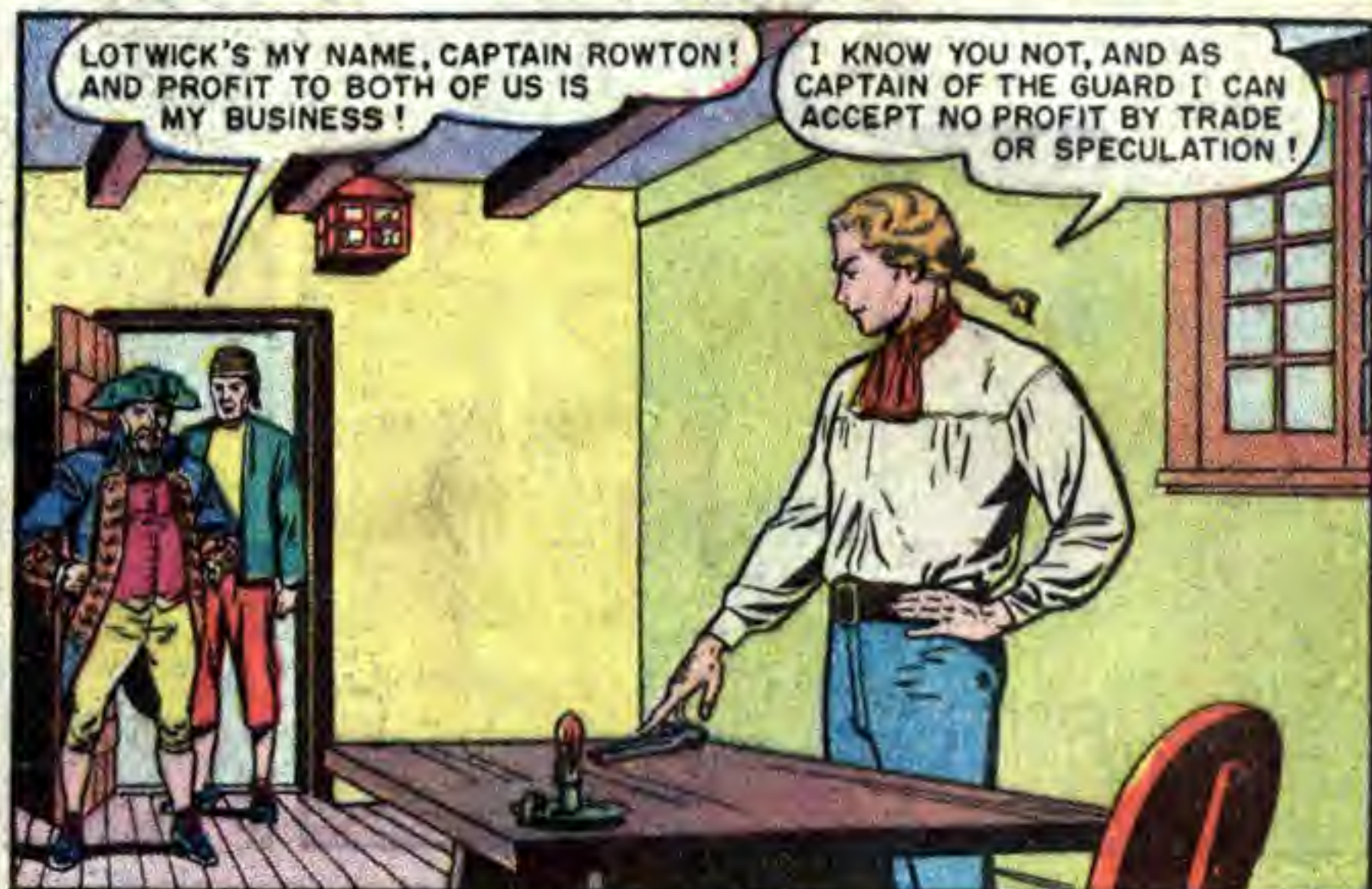
JUST NOW HE'S AT HIS QUARTERS, TALKING TO THAT OLD CASTAWAY, MAROON!



AT CRISPIN ROWTON'S QUARTERS...



AFTER MAROON HAS SOUGHT HIS COUCH...







NO SWORDPLAY, OR I FIRE! CAPTAIN ROWTON, WE KNOW THESE FACTS, AND THE PRICE OF OUR SILENCE COMES HIGH!

YOU ARE FANTASTIC... INSANE!



I WAS BLUEBEARD'S CABIN BOY! AND YEARS HAVE PASSED, HIS BEARD HAS TURNED WHITE... BUT I KNOW HIM, AND I GUESSED THE TRUTH OF WHO IS HIS SON!

AND YOU THINK I'LL PAY TO KEEP YOU FROM TELLING!



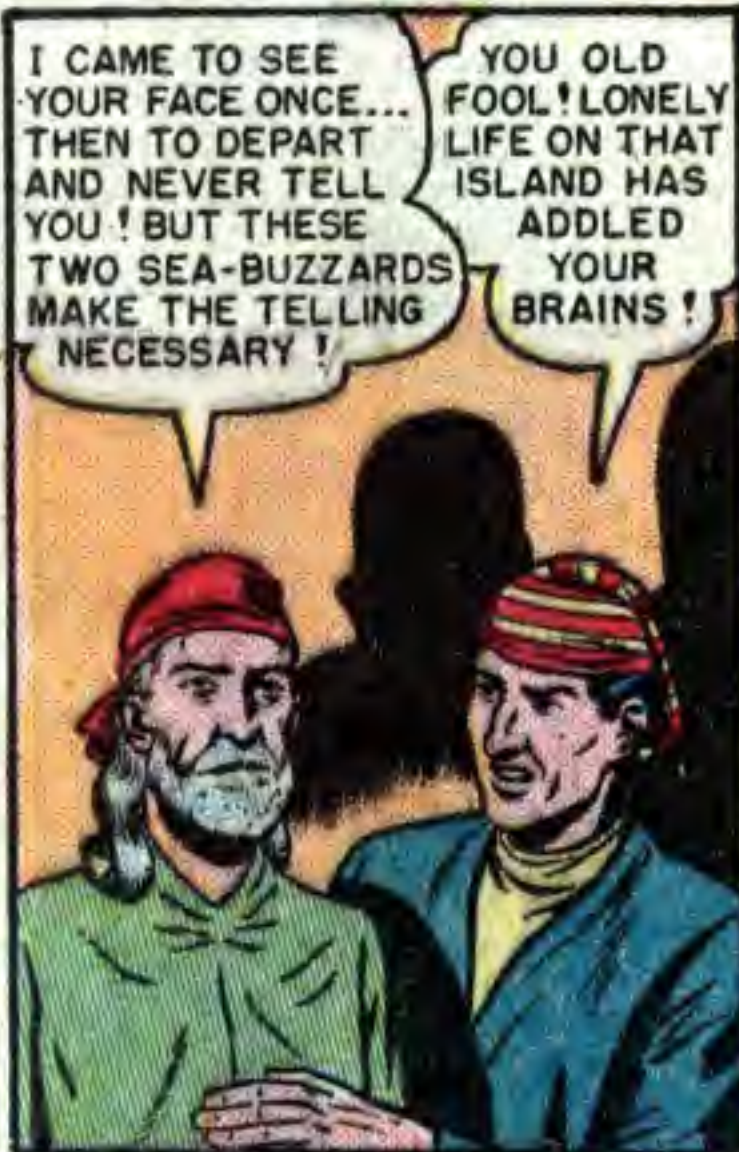
SILENCE FOR SILENCE, CAPTAIN ROWTON! WE KEEP MUM ABOUT BLUEBEARD... YOU KEEP MUM ABOUT THE SMUGGLING WE'LL DO!

EVEN IF IT WERE TRUE, I'D REFUSE... AND IT ISN'T TRUE!



I AM SORRY, MY SON! IT IS THE TRUTH! I AM BLUEBEARD, YOUR FATHER!

WHAT?



I CAME TO SEE YOUR FACE ONCE... THEN TO DEPART AND NEVER TELL YOU! BUT THESE TWO SEA-BUZZARDS MAKE THE TELLING NECESSARY!

YOU OLD FOOL! LONELY LIFE ON THAT ISLAND HAS ADDLED YOUR BRAINS!



I'LL GO TO THE GOVERNOR... AND TELL HIM THE WHOLE STORY, AND HOW MY SON BRAVELY REFUSED TO BE BLACK-MAILED!

YOU GO NOWHERE, GRANDSIRE!



YOU SEE WE BROUGHT AN ESCORT ALONG! YOU DON'T LEAVE HERE ON ANY TATTTLING ERRAND!

LOTWICK, YOU'VE GROWN BOLD SINCE YOU WERE MY CABIN BOY! BUT I SUSPECT IT'S ONLY BLUSTER AND SHAM...



...LET'S MAKE SURE WITH A LITTLE SWORDPLAY!

WELL DONE, MY FATHER! I'M WITH YOU!



# BUCCANEERS





# ERIC FALCON

## SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

IT WAS A STRANGE DOCUMENT THAT WAS *NOT* A DOCUMENT! BUT IT BROUGHT ERIC FALCON'S VICIOUS COUSIN PANCRAS BACK TO THREATEN HIM AND FORTUNA DELL, HIS LADY LOVE!



BETWEEN ADVENTURES, ERIC FALCON PAYS COURT TO THE FAIR FORTUNA...

AND THIS PARCHMENT, DEAR LADY, WAS GUARDED AS THE *CHIEF TREASURE* OF THE PIRATE CHIEF, LASKAR, WHEN MY SHIP CAPTURED HIS!

IN SOOTH, ERIC, I DO NOT SEE WHY? THE PAPER IS...

AYE, IT IS *BLANK*! NOT A SPECK OF WRITING ON IT! YET IT MUST HAVE SOME VALUE WE KNOW NOT! WILL YOU KEEP IT SAFE?

IF YOU WISH! AND I WISH I COULD KEEP *YOU* SAFE ALSO... FOREVER!

FRET NOT, MY SWEET! WHEN MY ADVENTURING IS OVER, I'LL RETURN AND SETTLE DOWN!

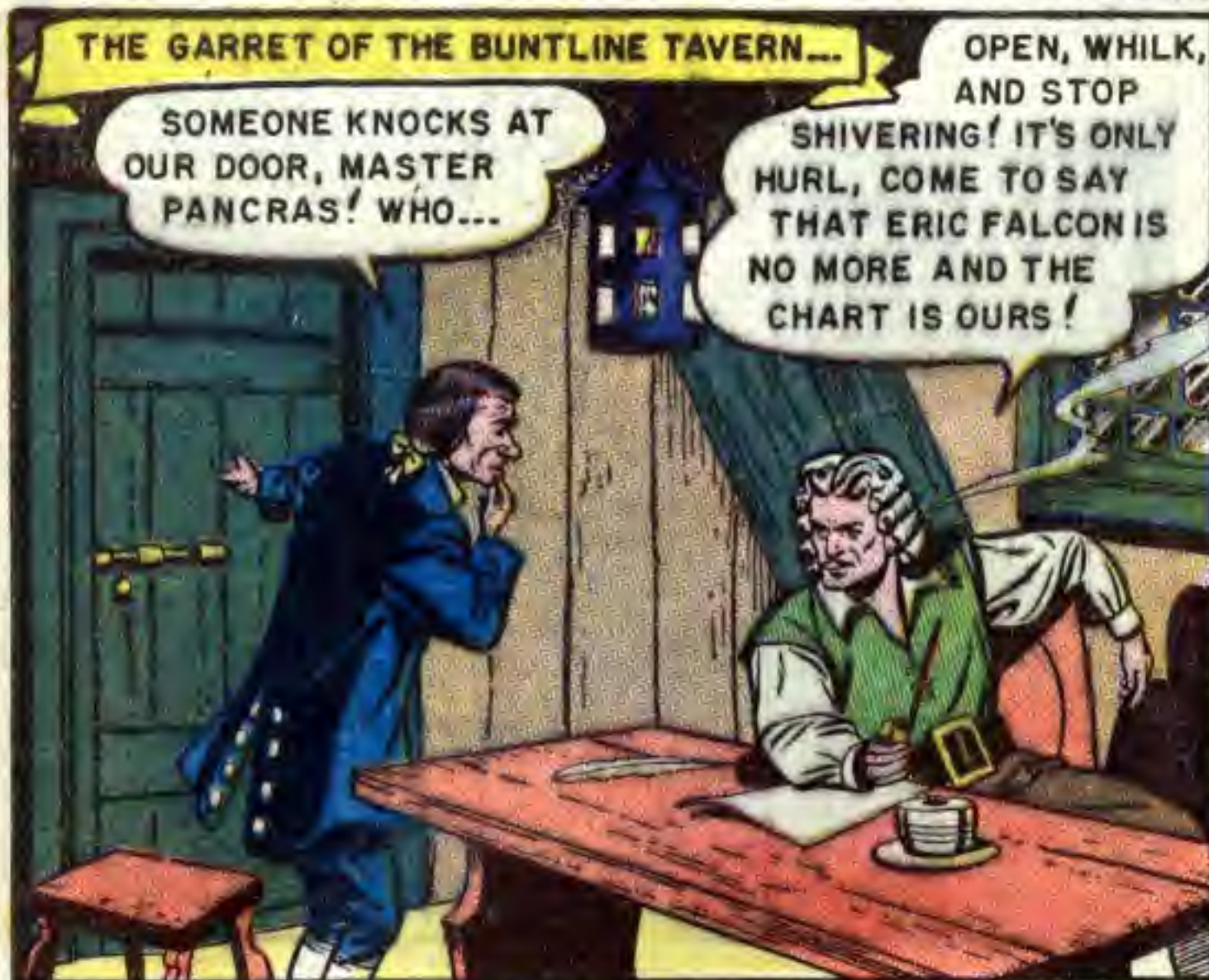
PRAY HEAVEN IT BE SOON! I HAVE A SENSE OF DANGER AT YOUR VERY ELBOW!















HE HAS NOT THE CHART IN HIS POSSESSION, MASTER!

THEN HE MUST HAVE LEFT IT WITH FORTUNA! BIND AND GAG THE ROGUE!



ALAS, SIR, I FAILED TO SLAY ERIC FALCON!

NO MATTER, HURL! COME AND HELP WHILK AND ME WITH ANOTHER SMALL TASK! ERIC WON'T DISTURB US BEFORE MORNING!

WHEN PANCRAS AND HIS MATES HAVE DEPARTED, ERIC REVIVES!



OH!  
OH!

BOUND AND HELPLESS! UNABLE TO WARN FORTUNA OF THE RETURN OF PANCRAS!



THAT BOTTLE BROKE ON MY HEAD! IT GOT ME INTO THIS PLIGHT!



AND ITS BROKEN REMAINS WILL GET ME OUT AGAIN!



ITS SHARP EDGES WILL SEVER MY BONDS... SO!



PRAY HEAVEN I AM NOT TOO LATE TO SAVE FORTUNA FROM PANCRAS!



BUT ALREADY...

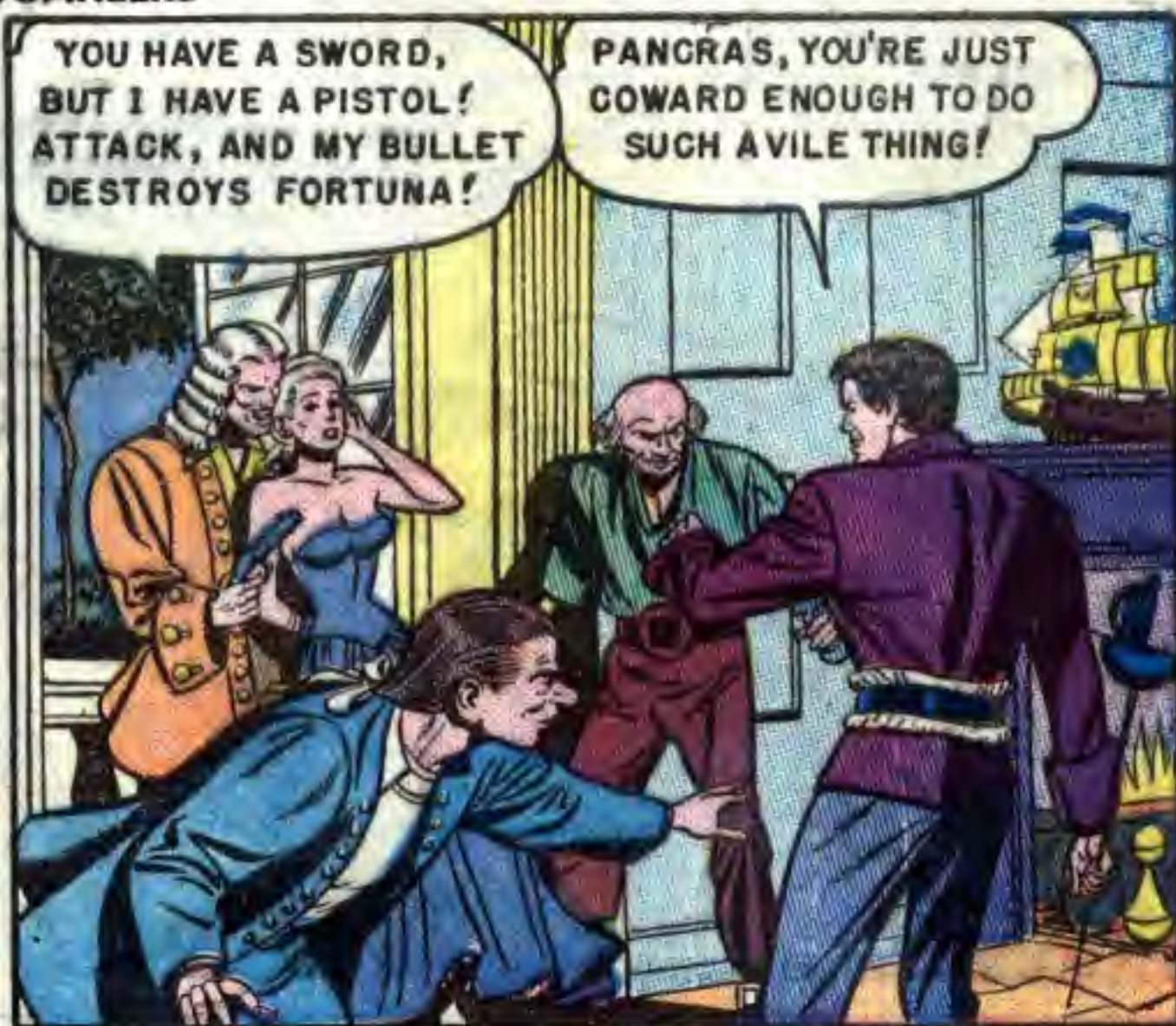
WHO KNOCKS AT THIS LATE HOUR?

I BRING A MESSAGE FROM ERIC FALCON!













YOU ARE COVERED, PANCRAS! SURRENDER!

HO, THE NIGHT WATCH! WE HAVE CAPTURED ROGUES AND PLUNDERERS!



WHEN THE LAW HAS ARRIVED...

THESE SCOUNDRELS GO TO PRISON WITHOUT DELAY!

PANCRAS, YOU HAD BETTER KNOW...

FORTUNA TOLD THE TRUTH! THE BLANK PARCHMENT WAS WHAT I TOOK FROM LASKAR!



YOU MEAN THE SHEET I BURNED IN YONDER FIRE?

IT ISN'T BURNED... ONLY SCORCHED!



HERE IT IS!

A MIRACLE! A MAP HAS APPEARED ON IT... THE KEY TO LASKAR'S TREASURE TROVE!



HOW COULD SUCH A THING BE?

SIMPLE! LASKAR DREW HIS CHART WITH SOME INVISIBLE FLUID... ONION JUICE OR LEMON JUICE PERHAPS!



THE HEAT OF THE FIRE MADE THE WRITING VISIBLE! NOW WE CAN SEEK AND FIND THAT TREASURE!

COME, PRISONERS! YOU CAN HEAR THE NEWS IN YOUR CELLS!



AND AGAIN ERIC FALCON SETS SAIL...

THIS TIME I SAIL WITH YOU, ERIC!

WEIGH ANCHOR! OUR DESTINATION PORT IS A GOLDEN ONE!



# PRICELESS CARGO

**A**LL of England had heard wild tales about that unusual ship, **THE PHANTOM**. At first they had been bewildered by its strange antics—now they were irritated! The Queen herself was asking for an explanation, especially when the daring captain of this amazing ship had escaped from prison where she had sent him. There was a price on the head of Captain Star—cargo thief, escaped convict, and now seafaring pirate!

Many people recalled the time Captain Star had been a respected man who had piloted one of the ships in the Queen's Navy. He had been considered a bit daring, with a temper easily aroused and a sharp wit that could cut the toughest hide. Nonetheless, he had been admired by his crew and honored by his superiors. His last return voyage from India, however, changed all that.

Half of the precious cargo had been missing from the ship when it met inspection, and Captain Star had no satisfactory explanation. He only insisted that everything had been in order during the voyage, and he suspected someone had arranged to steal the goods and place the blame on him. He pleaded for a chance to clear himself, but to no avail—and when a member of his own crew stepped forward to swear that his captain was the guilty party, Star was sent to prison.

The Captain was bewildered. He knew he was innocent of the charge and yet his own first mate had convinced the court that he was guilty. During the idle hours he spent in prison, he carefully planned his escape and his revenge! He had money enough saved to equip a ship and crew which now bore the name, **THE PHANTOM**—the most daring of the buccaneer vessels.

"But what kind of revenge is the Captain looking for?" asked one of his puzzled crewmen. "We spot a ship, board her easily enough, but take only enough supplies to last us a while. We've passed up precious cargo for bits of food."

No one could understand what Captain Star wanted when he board the ships of the Queen's Navy. He apparently wasn't interested in taking jewels or money. There were some members of the crew who wanted to plunder the ships regardless of what the Captain said, but they were soon persuaded not to by a quick sword or a strong right fist, well-aimed by an even stronger Captain.

"As long as I'm Captain," he told them one day, "I expect my orders to be obeyed. I, too, am looking for precious cargo—but I won't be satisfied until I have the most precious cargo in the world!"

His words sufficiently satisfied his crew. At least they felt once again that their captain had a definite plan in mind and wasn't leading them on a wild and wasteful voyage. But **THE PHANTOM** continued to board the Queen's ships and to take only those necessities the Captain allowed.

The crewmen heard the danger signal early one morning and hastily jumped out of their bunks. They scrambled into their clothes and hurried onto the deck where they found their Captain waiting for them.

"There's what I've been looking for," he announced solemnly. "**THE KENTON**—with my treasure aboard. Take her and take her quickly!"

Captain Star guided his ship alongside **THE KENTON** and in a short time, they captured the ship. The crew of **THE KENTON** had heard strange rumors about the tactics of **THE PHANTOM**, and they didn't know what to expect. They only looked frightened and helpless as Captain Star climbed aboard.

"Where's your Captain?" he bellowed at one shivering sailor.

"Down below, sir," he replied trembling.

"Tell him I'll give him no more than a minute to get on deck—if he isn't here by then, I'm setting this ship on fire!"

The sailor scurried down the ladder and returned in a moment followed by a tall, husky man with a black beard. The two captains faced each other grimly.

"Do you recognize me?" asked Captain Star bitterly.

"Yes," came a weak reply.

"You have every reason to remember me! When I was the Captain of **THE KENTON**, you were only first mate! It's a matter of your life or your death, Captain," Star said menacingly, "tell the men how you became the head of the ship while I went to prison."

The man hesitated. Captain Star's hand dropped to the dagger he wore in his belt. "I plotted against you," he said. "Before the cargo was inspected, I unloaded half the shipment onto another nearby boat so that you'd be blamed for stealing it—and I could fulfill my ambition to be captain."

A heavy silence hung over the crew. "Have mercy," he cried meekly to Captain Star. "Don't kill me."

"I don't plan to kill you," he said. "You have a matter to clear up for me with the Queen. You see, I told my men I was searching for the most precious cargo in the world. Well, now I found it—my honor!"



# BLACK ROGER

The Barbary pirate kings kept western civilizations in fear and awe...and no wonder!

On the side of the pirates fought such monsters as the **FIREDRAKE**... until **BLACK ROGER** brought it down!



**BLACK ROGER, SCOURGE OF THE BARBARY CORSAIRS, SAILS ALONG THE ENEMY COASTLINE...**

NO SIGN OF MOSLEM GUARDS AT THIS POINT! WE'LL LAND AND SPY THEM OUT!

WAIT, BLACK ROGER!



I'M NOT SURE WHAT I SEE YONDER! LOOK FOR YOURSELF!

GIVE ME THE GLASS, BARTY!



And BLACK ROGER SEES...







BRING HER IN CLOSE TO SHORE! THAT'S IT... NOW WE CAN SEE WELL!

POWERS ABOVE, WHAT DREAD MONSTER IS THAT?



IT'S A GIANT, SO IT IS! THrice A MAN'S HEIGHT... NAY, FOUR TIMES!

LOWER A BOAT! WE'LL GO STILL CLOSER TO MAKE SURE!



ASKING YOUR PARDON, BLACK ROGER... IF A SHORE PARTY'S GOING TO FACE THAT TERROR, DON'T ORDER ME INTO IT!

I SEND NO MAN OF MINE WHERE HE DARES NOT GO! WHO'LL VOLUNTEER FOR THE BOAT?



NOT I! THAT MONSTER THING'S UNCANNY!

I BEG TO BE EXCUSED, SIR! MEN I'LL FACE AND FIGHT... NOT DEMONS!



DON'T BLAME THEM, BLACK ROGER! THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS AND THE UNKNOWN SCARES THEM! I'LL VOLUNTEER!

THAT'S MY BRAVE BARTY! MEN, HOLD THE SHIP HERE AND WAIT FOR BARTY AND ME TO REPORT BACK!



HA, BLACK ROGER! THAT GIANT THING SEEMS TO HAVE GONE AWAY!

NO! YONDER HE RETURNS, LIKE A SENTRY WALKING HIS POST!



DOES IT SEE US YET?

I CAN'T TELL! LET'S STAND IN ITS WAY SO THERE'LL BE NO MISTAKE OF OUR CHALLENGE!



# BUCCANEERS





# BUCCANEERS





# BUCCANEERS

CAUTIOUS BUT BRAVE, BLACK ROGER STEALS CLOSE TO THE STRANGE FORTRESS ---



WHAT NEWS OF THE SEA COAST, MIGHTY ONE?

AN INFIDEL SHIP LANDED TWO FOOLS WHO DARED FACE ME--- BUT THEY RAN!

ALL IS DARK WITHIN--- BLACK ROGER CANNOT SEE, BUT HE CAN HEAR!

ALAS THAT MY POWER HAD RUN DOWN! SUMMON THE SLAVES TO THEIR LABOR OF TURNING THE WHEEL!

HA, DOES THE FIREDRAKE HAVE A HUMAN VOICE? I'LL FORCE THESE BARS AND ENTER ITS DEN!



TURN THE WHEEL, YOU FOREIGN DOGS, OR YOU'LL GO SUPPERLESS!

THOSE VOICES COME FROM THE LIGHTED INNER ROOM!



I SEE CAPTIVES OF MY OWN COUNTRY--- AND WHAT STRANGE WORK DO THEY PERFORM?



NOW OUR GIANT IS READY TO VENTURE FORTH AGAIN!

IF THE INFIDELS DARED LOOK AT HIM BY DAY, THEY WON'T BY NIGHT! HE'LL SCARE THEM FOREVER FROM THIS UNGUARDED SHORE OF OUR NATION!



I RETURN TO TERRORIZE THEM! PUT THE SLAVES IN THEIR CELL!

THE OUTER DOOR OPENS! I HEAR ITS HINGES!



YONDER GOES THE FIREDRAKE! AND BEHIND ME I HEAR---



HOW DID THIS SPY GET IN AMONG US?







'TIS NIGHT, O SLAVE DRIVER! THEREFORE, **SLEEP!**

WE ARE RESCUED!



NOW, MATES, TELL ME! WHAT IS THAT GRUESOME FIREDRAKE MONSTER?

A GIGANTIC TOY! IT MOVES BY **CLOCK-WORK**... LIKE THE PLAYTHINGS MADE BY CUNNING METAL WORKERS IN OUR HOMELAND!



WE WIND THE MIGHTY SPRING, AND INSIDE THE IMAGE'S HEAD SITS THE ENGINEER, GUIDING ITS HANDS AND FEET, AS A PILOT GUIDES A SHIP!

WHAT OF ITS FIERY BREATH?



'TIS THE SMOKE FROM THE ENGINEER'S PIPE, TO FRIGHTEN BEHOLDERS!

COME WITH ME, MATES! AND BRING THIS CHAIN!



SHORTLY THEREAFTER---

AHOY, YOU CHEATING, TRICK-PLAYING RIDER IN A TOY! TURN AND FACE ME!

THE VOICE OF AN INFIDEL!



HERE I AM! I KNOW YOUR SECRET! COME AND FIGHT IT OUT, IF YOU DARE!



YOU SHALL NOT ESCAPE ME!







# PLAY PIANO THE FIRST DAY... OR DON'T PAY!

Here's Your Chance to  
**BE POPULAR!**



I'M CERTAINLY MISSING A LOT  
OF FUN, AND DATES, TOO.  
IF I COULD ONLY PLAY  
THE PIANO THE WAY  
BETTY DOES.  
'WONDER HOW SHE  
LEARNED SO FAST?  
I'LL ASK HER THE  
FIRST CHANCE I GET.



MARY, I NEVER TOOK A LESSON IN MY LIFE - BUT  
NOW I CAN PLAY WELL, THANKS TO THE  
**AUTOMATIC CHORD SELECTOR** AND  
THE **DEAN ROSS SIMPLE ABC METHOD**.  
YOU OUGHT TO TRY IT!

IF IT'S AS EASY  
AS YOU SAY AND  
IT ONLY COSTS  
\$1.98 I'LL SEND  
FOR IT  
RIGHT AWAY!



GLAD I TOOK BETTY'S ADVICE.  
NOW I GET INVITED  
EVERYWHERE. NO MORE  
WALLFLOWER STUFF  
FOR ME!

"I learned to play a song in 10  
minutes."

-A.C.C., Washington

"Even if one never played a  
note it is easy."

-C.G.H., New Hampshire

"Now I can play sheet music  
beautifully."

-E.S., New York

Hundreds of thankful, en-  
thusiastic letters like these  
are in our files.

## New, Patented **AUTOMATIC CHORD SELECTOR** Guides Your Fingers

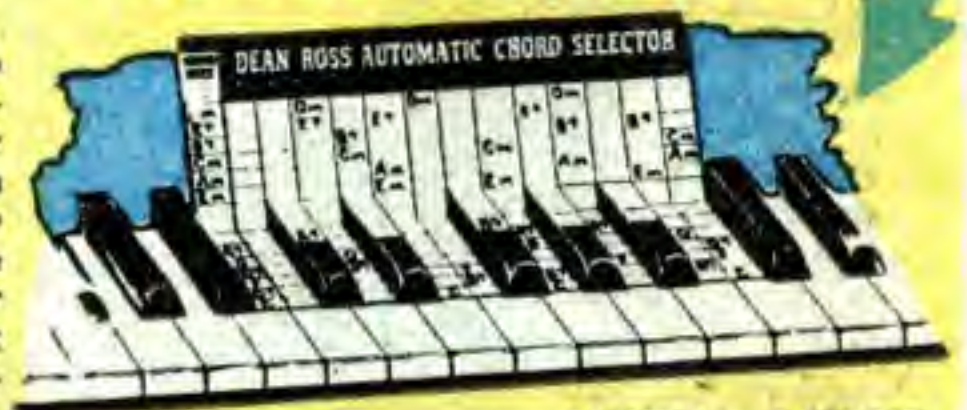
**Y**ou, too, can play piano with BOTH hands, in no time at all! Thousands have learned to play this fast, easy way. With the amazing, new invention, the **AUTOMATIC CHORD SELECTOR** there's really nothing to it. Before long you're playing songs everyone enjoys... from Hit Parade numbers and hymns to beautiful old ballads.

This is no trick method. You actually learn to read and play any sheet music. And, the patented **AUTOMATIC CHORD SELECTOR** guides your fingers every note of the way. No

scales, no exercises, no dreary practicing. You actually play the minute you sit down at the piano. You gain ease, assurance and a professional style as you go through the 30 lessons and 40 songs.

Instead of paying the studio charge of \$5 a lesson, you can enjoy the 30 lessons, \$150 worth, in the privacy of your home for just \$1.98. The Dean Ross Piano Course can open up a whole new world of happiness. Now you can be the "hit" of every party... the center of attraction wherever you go. Don't delay another minute, mail the **FREE-TRIAL Coupon NOW!**

**NO SCALES!  
NO EXERCISES!  
YOU PLAY INSTANTLY!**



PATENT No. 2,473,222

**Complete Course only \$1.98 - Including the  
PATENTED AUTOMATIC CHORD SELECTOR  
No Extras - SEND NO MONEY!**

You have 10 full days to prove to yourself the value of the Dean Ross Piano method. When the complete course with its 30 clearly illustrated lessons (worth \$150 at the studio) and 40 favorite songs, together with the patented **AUTOMATIC CHORD SELECTOR** is delivered, pay postman just \$1.98 plus postage. Try the course for 10 days with the understanding that you must learn to play with both hands or your full purchase price will be refunded at once. The patented **AUTOMATIC CHORD SELECTOR** is yours to keep in any event. You have nothing to lose... and popularity and fun to gain, so mail coupon today!

**DEAN ROSS PIANO STUDIOS INC., Dept. 208  
45 West 45th Street New York 19, N. Y.**

THE GIRLS  
ARE WILD  
ABOUT THE  
WAY I PLAY  
PIANO - CAN'T  
THANK DEAN  
ROSS ENOUGH



**10-Day FREE TRIAL COUPON - Mail Today!**

**DEAN ROSS PIANO STUDIOS, INC., Dept. 208  
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Name  (Please Print)

Address

City & Zone  State

☐ **SAVE MONEY!** Enclose \$1.98 and we pay postage  
Some Refund Guarantee



Which of these 2 one time WEAKLINGS PAID only a Few Cents?

to become an

"All-Around" HE-MAN at Home

WHICH ONE PAID HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS TO TRAIN AT MY SIDE?

Larry Campbell

Rex Ferris

Rex Ferris, like you, paid only a few cents to start building into a champion all around He Man!

Rex mailed me a coupon as below. He was a skinny bag of bones. Today he is tops in athletics, strength, business.

Larry Campbell paid me hundreds of dollars to train at my side years ago. Now you can start building into an All Around He Man right at home with these same progressive power secrets for only a few cents—just as Rex Ferris did!

AMAZING

get acquainted offer!

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YOUR LAST CHANCE

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Instead of \$1.00

plus FREE MY PHOTO BOOK OF FAMOUS STRONG MEN!

"The Jowett System is the greatest in the world!" says R. F. Kelly, Physical Director, Atlantic City.

Let's Go, Pal! I'll prove I can make YOU too

an "ALL-AROUND" HE-MAN

FAST—or it won't cost you a cent—

says George F. Jowett—World's Greatest Body Builder

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DEPT. Q-09

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# What's My Job? - I Manufacture Weaklings into **MEN!**

*Charles Atlas*

Actual Photograph of the man who holds the title "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

**G**IVE ME a skinny, pepless, second-rate body—and I'll cram it so full of handsome, bulging new muscle that your friends will grow bug-eyed! . . . I'll wake up that sleeping energy of yours and make it hum like a high-powered motor! Man, you'll *feel* and look different! You'll begin to *LIVE!*



## Let Me Make YOU a NEW MAN —IN JUST 15 MINUTES A DAY!

You wouldn't believe it, but I myself used to be a 97-lb. weakling. Fellows called me "Skinny." Girls snickered and made fun of me behind my back. I was a flop. THEN I discovered my marvelous new muscle-building system—"Dynamic Tension." And it turned me into such a complete specimen of MANHOOD that today I hold the title, "THE WORLD'S MOST PERFECTLY DEVELOPED MAN."

That's how I traded in my "bag of bones" for a barrel of muscle! And I felt so much better, so much on top of the world in my big, new, husky body, that I decided to devote my whole life to helping other fellows change themselves into "perfectly developed men."

### What Is "Dynamic Tension"? How Does It Work?

When you look in the mirror and see a healthy, husky, strapping fellow smiling back at you—then you'll be astounded at how short a time it takes "Dynamic Tension" to GET RESULTS!

"Dynamic Tension" is the easy, NATURAL method you can practice in the privacy of your own room—JUST 15 MINUTES EACH DAY—while your scrawny shoulder muscles begin to swell, ripple . . . those spindly arms and legs of yours bulge . . . and your whole body starts to feel "alive," full of zip and go!

### One Postage Stamp May Change Your Whole Life!

As I've pictured up above, I'm steadily building broad-shouldered, dynamic MEN—day by day—the country over.

2,000,000 fellows, young and old, have already gambled a postage stamp to ask for my FREE book. They wanted to read and see for themselves how I'm building up scrawny bodies, and how I'm paring down fat, flabby ones—how I'm turning them into breath-taking human dynamos of real MANPOWER.

Take just a few seconds NOW to fill in and mail the coupon at right, and you will receive at once my FREE book—"Everlasting Health and Strength" that PROVES with actual snap-shots what "Dynamic Tension" has done for others—what it can do for YOU! Address: CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 3309 115 East 23rd St., New York 10, N. Y.

## FREE

Mail the coupon below right now for my FREE illustrated book, "Everlasting Health and Strength." Tells all about "Dynamic Tension" methods. Crammed with pictures, facts! Address me personally: CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 3309 115 E. 23rd St., New York 10, N. Y.



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I want the proof that your system of "Dynamic Tension" will help make a New Man of me—give me a healthy, husky body and big muscular development. Send me your free book, "Everlasting Health and Strength."

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